

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF PUERTO RICO

PANEL ATTORNEY QUESTIONNAIRE AND APPLICATION

The following Questionnaire and Application is to be completed by attorneys requesting appointment to represent indigent defendants under the provisions of the Criminal Justice Act of 1964, as amended (18 U.S.C. § 3006A).

The applicant is informed that membership in the CJA Panel is not a requirement to maintain good standing in the bar of this court. Thus, completion of this application is voluntary.

The applicant should be aware that his/her admission to the Panel of Attorneys for this District will be determined after considering, among other things, skills, past trial experience, knowledge and command of the Federal Rules of Procedure, the Local Rules of this Court, and the Plan for Implementing the Criminal Justice Act for the District of Puerto Rico.

A. PERSONAL BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

1. Name: _____
2. Date of Birth: _____
3. Social Security Number: _____
4. Tax Identification No: _____
5. a) Home Address : _____

- b) Mailing Address : _____

c) Telephone No: _____

6. E-Mail Address: _____

7. Office Address (If different from mailing address) _____

Fax No: _____

Telephone No: _____

8. Education:

a. Law School: _____

b. Year of graduation (JD): _____

c. Post-graduate Studies (Please indicate highest degree completed, year
and name of the institution):

9. Honors, Awards, Fellowships:

10. Special Qualifications/Skills (Indicate whether you)

a. are fluent in any foreign language. If so, describe your level of fluency.

b. have specialized in a particular legal field/matter such as habeas corpus or any
other post-sentencing remedy.

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11. Have you ever been disbarred, suspended, reprimanded, censured, or otherwise formally disciplined, publicly or privately, as an attorney, or as a member of any other profession, or as a holder of any public office?

Yes _____ No _____

12. Are any charges or complaints now pending before any court or agency concerning your conduct as an attorney, or as a member of any profession, or as a holder of any public office?

Yes _____ No _____

(If you have answered Yes to Questions 11 or 12, attach a separate statement explaining the nature and final disposition of such complaints).

13. List your Continuing Legal Education experiences, either as a lecturer or participant, in criminal or trial advocacy programs. (attach separate sheet, if necessary.)
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B. BAR ADMISSIONS

1. Puerto Rico Supreme Court:

Yes _____ Date _____ Bar No _____

2. United States District Court for the District of Puerto Rico:

Yes _____ Date _____ Bar No _____

3. United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit:

Yes _____ Date _____ Bar No _____

4. Supreme Court of the United States:

Yes _____ Date _____ Bar No _____

5. List all and any other court to which you have been admitted to practice and the year of admission.

6. Have you previously served on any other panel or pro bono service list (such as State Legal Aid, Pro Bono Program, or any Committee for Public Counsel Service)? If so, indicate each panel or list, and the dates or terms during which you served:

7. Have you previously applied for appointment to the CJA Panel in this District? Is so, when?

Yes _____ No _____

8. Have you previously served on the CJA Panel in this District or otherwise received an appointment under the CJA? If so, list the dates/term of your service.

Yes _____ No _____

9. Have you ever been relieved from representing an assigned defendant in any court for any reason other than his/her retaining a private attorney? If so, give particulars.

Yes _____ No _____

10. Have you ever been removed from any panel or pro bono service list? If so, give particulars.

Yes _____ No _____

C. WORK/PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

1. Have you ever worked as an attorney for the government?

Yes _____ No _____

If so, please indicate the term and capacity in which you served as an attorney for the government:

2. Describe what experience, if any, you have had representing parties in criminal cases before the state or federal courts.

3. Describe what experience, if any, you have had representing defendants in non-jury trials and other proceedings of penal nature and/or related matters such as habeas corpus.

4. Describe what other litigation experience you have had, if any.

5. State briefly the nature of your practice during the past three (3) years.

6. Indicate the percentage and approximate number of cases that will best describe your trial experience during the past five (5) years (give approximate totals).

a) Civil trials in federal courts:

% Practice _____

No. Cases _____

b) Criminal trial in federal courts:

% Practice _____

No. Cases _____

c) Criminal trials in state courts:

% Practice _____

No. Cases _____

d) Pleas and sentences in federal courts:

% Practice _____

No. Cases _____

e) Pleas and sentences in state courts:

% Practice _____

No. Cases _____

f) Any other (i.e.: administrative hearings, military):

7. Indicate if you have represented someone in a death penalty case.

Yes _____

No _____

If so, please indicate where and when and if the case was taken to trial.

8. Indicate if you have represented someone in a case where the possible maximum penalty was life-imprisonment.

Yes _____

No _____

9. Have you taken courses in and/or worked with the Federal Sentencing Guidelines?

Yes _____

No _____

If so, briefly state when and in what courses have you participated and/or you work with the United States.

10. Do you know the Federal Sentencing Guidelines in order to represent federal defendants?

Yes _____

No _____

11. If admitted to the CJA Panel, indicate the areas in which you would like to receive additional training (utilizing the numbers from 1-3, please prioritize the subject matters assigning 1 to the most important subject matter and 3 to the least).

a) Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure	1	2	3
b) Federal Rules of Evidence	1	2	3
c) Bail Reform Act	1	2	3
d) Speedy Trial Act	1	2	3
e) Federal Sentencing Guidelines	1	2	3
f) Juvenile Delinquency Proceedings	1	2	3

g) Parole Revocation Proceedings	1	2	3
h) Probation Revocation Proceedings	1	2	3
i) Supervised Release Revocation Proceedings	1	2	3
j) Appellate Rules	1	2	3

12. Set forth briefly, any education, training and experience you have had which serves as the source of your familiarity with the federal rules, statutes and proceedings.

D. IN GENERAL

1. If necessary, have you sought approval from your law firm to participate in the CJA Panel?

Yes _____ No _____

2. If appointed, would you be available to represent defendants in an extended (exceeding 1 week) criminal trial?

Yes _____ No _____ Occasionally _____

3. Would you accept appointments to represent petitioners, plaintiffs or defendants in criminal oriented and related matters which are not presently compensable under the Criminal Justice Act?

Yes _____ No _____ Occasionally _____

4. Do you have objection to law school students working with you on matters to which you may be assigned?

Yes _____ No _____

5. Do you have objection to have a less experienced attorney working with you in matters you may be assigned?

Yes _____ No _____

6. Would you be available from time to time to serve in the courthouse as duty attorney

on an assigned duty day?

Yes _____

No _____

7. Would you be available for calls during non-office hours should there be an immediate need for an attorney to advise a defendant in custody?

Yes _____

No _____

8. I take notice of the following:

- a) membership in CJA Panel is staggered and subject to annual evaluations.
- b) membership is a privilege conferred by the Court contingent, among other things, to the efficient and faithful performance of the duties entrusted.
- c) there will be a limit to the number of cases per year that may be assigned to panel members.
- d) there are certain specific types of cases and/or circumstances in which the Court, in its discretion, may depart from the random computerized appointment of counsel.
- e) declining/rejecting cases, without cause, may be reason for removal from the Panel.
- f) you are required to attend at least two (2) seminars yearly, and are advised that non-attendance or participation in CLE programs may constitute grounds to terminate your membership in the Panel.
- g) as a CJA Panel member, you will certify to the Clerk of the Court your participation in CLE Programs in compliance with item (f).
- h) you are expected to take any case assigned to you.

9. If accepted, is there a particular type of case or defendant that you would not represent?

Yes _____

No _____

If so, explain:

I hereby certify that the above information is true and correct.

Date

Signature